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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data recording and reproducing apparatus having a function of reproducing audio data and image data associated with the audio data, said apparatus comprising:

audio data reproducing means for reproducing audio data; and

display means for displaying, while the audio data reproducing means is reproducing audio data, first information including character data representing reproduction status of the audio data and for displaying second information including image data associated with the audio data being reproduced.

15 2. A data recording and reproducing apparatus having audio data reproducing means for reproducing audio data selected, and display means for displaying at least image data associated with the audio data selected, said apparatus comprising:

instruction means for instructing the display
20 means to display or not to display the image data;

control means for causing the display means to display data representing reproduction status of the audio data, when the instruction means instructs the display means not to display the image data.

25 3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
the control means causes the display means to display
the reproduction status of the audio data after

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displaying the image data for a predetermined time,
when the instruction means instructs the display
means to display the image data.

5 4. A data recording and reproducing apparatus
comprising:

audio data recording means for recording audio
data on a recording medium;

10 imaging means for generating image data while
the audio data recording means is recording the audio
data; and

image recording means for recording the image
data on the recording medium, in association with
that part of the audio data which is recorded the
moment the imaging means generated the image data.

15 5. A data recording and reproducing apparatus
capable of reproducing audio data and image data
associated with that part of the audio data which is
recorded the moment the image data is generated, said
apparatus comprising:

20 display means for displaying an operating status
of the apparatus; and

control means for causing the display means to
display first information including character data
representing a reproduction status of the audio data
25 while the audio data is being reproduced, and for
displaying second information including the image
data associated with said part of the audio data,

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when said part of the audio data is reproduced.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein
every time said part of the audio data is reproduced,
said control means causes the display means to
5 display the second information for a predetermined
time and then the first information upon lapse of the
predetermined time.

7. A data recording and reproducing apparatus
having a function of recording audio data and image
10 data associated with the audio data, said apparatus
comprising:

audio data recording means for recording audio
data; and

15 imaging means imaging means for recording image
data in association with a time elapsed in the
process of recording the audio data, while the audio
data recording means is recording the audio data.

8. A data recording and reproducing apparatus
having a function of recording audio data and image
20 data associated with the audio data, said apparatus
comprising:

audio data reproducing means for reproducing
audio data; and

25 display means for displaying, while the audio
data reproducing means is reproducing audio data,
first information including character data
representing reproduction status of the audio data

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and for displaying second information including image data associated with a time elapsed in the process of recording the audio data that the audio data reproducing means is reproducing.

5 9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein every time the time elapsed in the process of recording the audio data is detected, the display means displays the image data for a predetermined time and then displays a reproduction status of the
10 audio data.

10. A data recording and reproducing apparatus comprising:

an audio recording section which converts audio signals to audio data and which records the audio
15 data in a memory;

an image recording section which encodes image signals generated by an imaging device, into image data, and which records the image data in the memory;

an index information recording section which
20 records index information about the audio data, said index information including data about the image data associated with the audio data.

11. The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the index information includes at least one data item
25 selected from the group consisting of data representing the address at which the audio data is recorded in the memory, a total number of image data

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items associated with the audio data and data representing the time at which the image associated with the audio data is acquired.

5 12. A data recording and reproducing apparatus comprising:

a sound reproducing section which converts audio data recorded in a memory, into audio signals, thereby reproducing the audio data;

10 an image reproducing section which converts the audio data recorded in the memory, into image signals, and causing a display device to display the image data; and

15 control section which controls the image reproducing section in accordance with index information about the audio data recorded in the memory, while the sound reproducing section is reproducing the audio signals.

20 13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the control means causes the image reproducing section to read from the memory the image data associated with the audio data that the sound reproducing section is reproducing, thereby to reproduce the image data, while the sound reproducing section is reproducing audio data.

25 14. The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the control means controls causes the image reproducing section to reproduce the image data when

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the audio reproducing section reproduces that part of the audio data which is associated with the image data.

5 15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein
the control means determines whether that part of the
audio data which is associated with the image data
has been reproduced, in accordance with data items
representing the time when the recording of the audio
data was started, the time elapsed from the start of
10 recording the audio data and the time when the image
data was acquired, before causing the image
reproducing section to reproduce the image data.

 16. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein
the control means causes the display device to
15 display the image data for only a predetermined
period from the start of reproducing the image data.